

Horrifying Creatures Found In The Basement Of A London Mansion Will Give You Chills

History

During 1960 in London, at the time of clearing the site for the construction of new residential neighborhood, the long-abandoned mansion belonged to Thomas Theodore Merrylin, a crypto naturalist was sent for destruction. In the basement of the building, the builders found that there were many wooden crates sealed. To their surprise, when they opened the box they began to find out strange mythical creatures inside them.

Merrylin, The Legend



Merrylin was born in 1782 in a wealthy aristocratic family. He was fond of collecting bizarre things, just like his father Edward and spent his entire life in hunting hidden species all around the world.

Is Merrylin's collection for real or a total bust?



Nobody knows anything about these creatures.



This is ethereal



Could you imagine finding these?



Fragments of civilization.



The collection also included artifacts of curious origin, that once ruled the world and perhaps better left in past.

Myth and reality



Much of the Merrylin's collection dance on the border of myth and reality. It's still a mystery whether most of his

artifacts found in Merrylin Cryptid Museum are real.

They are mystical



Obscure species.



The wooden crates found in the basement of London contained about 5000 species of flora and fauna. They were dissected and preserved by many scientists.

Do skeletons have wings?



Darco Magnus



The largest known species of Darco were found. This particular skeleton belonged to a young male who mourned their dead like humans and elephants.







Larva non volucris ^{larva}



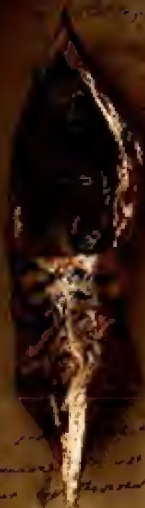
Larva non volucris ^{larva}

Humana





Large and Homomorph (argued)



The fossil is a small, dark, elongated specimen, possibly a wing or a body part of an insect, mounted on the left side of the page. It is a separate fossil but in the same lot. The only other fossil in the lot is a small, dark, elongated specimen, possibly a wing or a body part of an insect, mounted on the left side of the page. It is a separate fossil but in the same lot. The only other fossil in the lot is a small, dark, elongated specimen, possibly a wing or a body part of an insect, mounted on the left side of the page. It is a separate fossil but in the same lot.

27th Nov. 1871. To show - owned
it is easy to see the lateral
of the skeleton is mounted
between bones and lower mine.

Recently broken
winged Homomorph















ARTHUR
SPIDERWICK'S

FIELD
GUIDE

To the
FANTASTICAL
WORLD
AROUND YOU

T. DIERLIZZI & CO. HOLLY BLKOK

September 6th, 1909

I visited the Riggensbach estate today, as its owners were convinced it was haunted. However, it appears to be no more than the handiwork of a particularly mischievous boggart.

PLATE III

The Riggensbach boggart has small, vestigial wings.

This buggen tried to make off with my spectacles!

Holding a broken shard of glass



He is wearing a stolen pair of doll shoes.

His pocket also holds one of my pencils and a lock of someone's hair.

Custos domesticus
COMMON HOUSE BOGGART

RENDERED ACTUAL SIZE

All trolls have exceptional hearing and sense of smell.

This species will frequently leave its den and venture onto land in search of food.

Here, she has used the pelts from her meals as protection against the bitter, chilly environment.

This very old female was fond of shiny objects and had adorned herself with all that she had collected.



-75-

Note the shackles on her wrists. She obviously had been captured by humans at one point. Of course, in time the iron burned and discolored her skin.

She smelled like rotten wood.

Vorax haverensis
BAUER'S TROLL

RENDERED ONE FOURTIEN TH ACTUAL SIZE

This is Terrance Fink, a changeling boy raised by a family of farmers in upstate New York.

Terrance was probably swapped when the Finks' newborn was brought home from the hospital.

The Finks contacted me and I came out to investigate. My findings are as follows:

The boy's father, Dennis, was a strapping, robust man known for his incredible appetite, which I witnessed firsthand when he proceeded to eat one dozen pancakes for breakfast one morning! However, his stomach was no match for little Terrance, who ate over 20 pancakes, then asked for more!

Terrance's hair was another oddity. His poor mother would cut it every morning, only to have it grow several inches by day's end. Brushing and combing the hair proved useless as it always grew at odd angles and stuck up like a pineapple.

Flamadryas nemorivagus
**ELVEN
CHANGELING**

RENDERED ONE-FIFTH ACTUAL SIZE



Note the pointed ears.

He was always snickering but barely ever spoke.

-11-

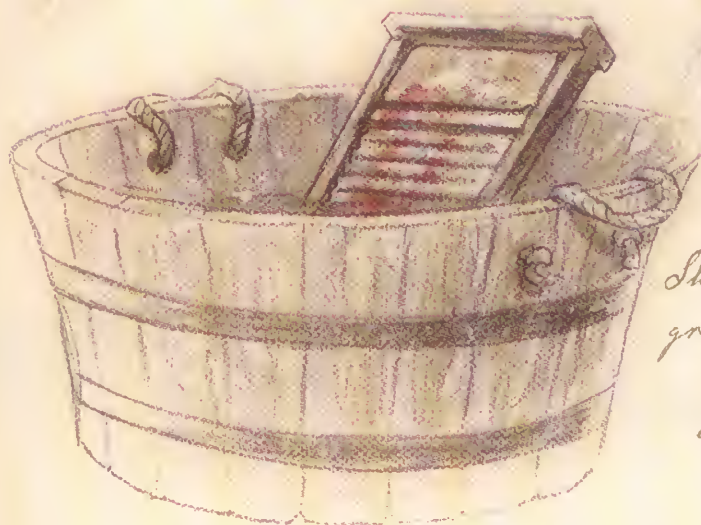
Always barefoot



Many reports of ghosts can be explained by faerie activity, but there are some I have been unable to correlate with specific faerie types. This subject certainly warrants further exploration.

The banshee was spotted wringing blood from a wet rag in her hands. I found out later that the cloth was, in fact, the shirt of Albert's dying father. He and Albert's daughter both were victims of tuberculosis.

-107-



She floated above the ground at all times, hovering over an ethereal bucket and washboard.

Dryas styx?
BANSHEE

RETIDED ONE EIGHTH ACTUAL SIZE

His tiny eyes were used to low-light conditions.

This dwarf's name was Jarlite. He was as curious about me as I was about him.

Many have white beards, although black beards have also been recorded.

Much of their clothing is drab and earthen in color.



His skin was pale . . . almost translucent.

Fossor borealis
NORTHERN QUARRY DWARF

RENDERED ONE-FOURTH ACTUAL SIZE

ants communicate through
very low-frequency sounds,
audible to human ears.

seems to be a
considerable amount
of coarse hair, which
troubles roots and
licked grass.

These CATTLE EGRETS
(*Bubulcus ibis*) feed
on insects living on
the creature's
immense back.

Its skin is
thick and rock-
like, partially
covered with lichen
and moss. On some
specimens I've
even seen small
trees.

J. F. G. G. G.

Gigas orientalis
EASTERN HILL GIANT

Equipment & Protection

Before one begins an expedition to observe the habits and habitats of fantastical creatures, there are several useful items one should collect.



A thermos with milk for appeasing and luring faeries.



A bag of salt can dispell some magical illusions, and many faeries cannot abide it.



Bind oak, ash, and thorn twigs together with red thread to offer protection against faeries.

Bring a journal (and pencils) to record all of your findings.



A backpack or satchel is useful for carrying everything.



A flashlight and magnifying glass will come in handy.



Her hair grew in brown
and green stalks that
imitated thatch.

Her eyes were
very pale green
her voice sounded
like birds.

She was about
the size of a
human child.

The leaves of her dress
were a drab green with
rusty brown blotches.

Her feet were stained a deep green
from dancing in the grass.

I spied a female in an old field
dancing about in the grass. As she
moved around, small seeds fell from the
leaves of her dress.

Noticing my presence, she stopped and
studied me, seemingly curious. I told
her that I meant no harm and that I
was only there to observe and record.

She stared at me for some time and
said, "You have come too far. Your destiny
has forever changed." With that, she
turned and disappeared.

May 1911

*Their clothing is composed
of dried grass, leaves,
and seedpods.*



*Wings seem to be more
prominent on the
juveniles.*

*This one was fascinated
with my artist's tools and
swiped one of my brushes.*

*These shoes were likely
"borrowed" from
a leprechaun.*

Flamadrinas compensis
FIELD PISKIE

RENDERED ONE-FOURTH ACTUAL SIZE

A large but shy boggart, named Lichspattele, that I discovered in a town nearby. His mischief seemed less malicious than the usual boggart fare. In fact, he reminded me strongly of a hobgoblin.

This rogue was stealing an infant's milk bottle each night and drinking it, leaving a hungry and screaming baby.



He had made his home in the chimney, and he left costly footprints all over the floor each morning.

Costas domesticus
COMMON HOUSE BOGGART

RENDERED ONE-HALF SIZE
 Copyrighted Material



Hydra?

*Their tails can
intertwine and eventually
land together.*

*Adults can reach large
sizes, about
12-20' in length*

*the juveniles
are similar in
shape to
some species of
salamanders*

*A large presence of methane in their
nesting areas leads me to wonder
if the poisonous gas is emanating
from them somehow...*



Perching stance

*This one was on a
very old cathedral in
Paris, France.*

*This particularly large creature
had excellent vision and leaned
far out from the edge of
its perch to better observe
what was happening down
below it.*

*The skin was smooth,
almost like marble,
but it smelled like
wet cement.*

*No tail on this one,
despite its canine
appearance.*

Ecclesiababians longicollis
LONG-NECKED GARGOYLE

RENDERED ONE-SEVENTH ACTUAL SIZE

Manticores are only found in the deepest part of a forest. This one was drawn from memory. I encountered it while exploring rain forests in Latin America. I cannot even bring myself to write what it was dining upon.

It was surprisingly not as large as I imagined, perhaps the size of a cougar.

Quill from
its tail

This individual was blind in one eye, perhaps as a result of a struggling victim.

J. G. S. G. S.

Note the poison gland, which continues to contract, pumping poison through the hollow spine, even after the spine has been expelled.

Martigor martigor
MANTICORE

REPRESENTATIVE SPRITE SPECIES OF THE WORLD

ILLUSTRATING BIOLUMINESCENT FEATURES



Little name 75
LITTLE FLOWER-HEAD
1915 1915



Ann Dandy
FLOWER-WINGED SPRITE
1915 1915



Little name 75
CROWNED DANCING SPRITE
1915 1915



Little name 75
TINKLE SPRITE
1915 1915



Little name 75
LEATHERING
1915 1915



Little name 75
ACUTE HOPPER
1915 1915



Little name 75
HARSH MOWER
1915 1915



Little name 75
DANCING FROG-LIKE
1915 1915



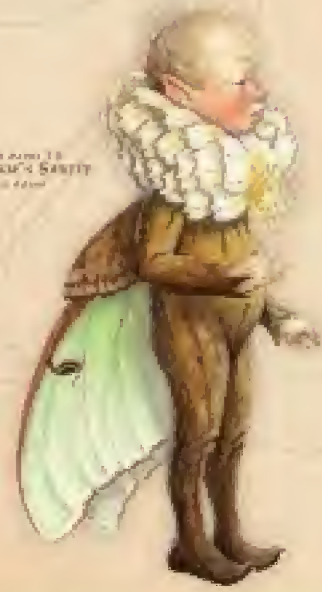
Little name 75
GEORGE TOAD
1915 1915



Little name 75
DEVIL'S SPA
1915 1915



Little name 75
RACKHAM'S SENTRY
1915 1915



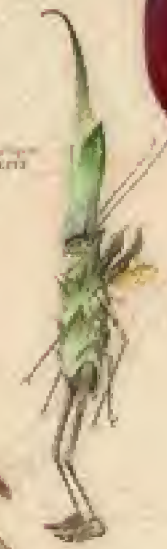
Little name 75
RURAL ORCHARD-SPRITE
1915 1915



Little name 75
SECRET SPRITE
1915 1915



Little name 75
MOTH-WINGED ORCHARD SPRITE
1915 1915



Little name 75
BEARDED HOPPER
1915 1915

PREPARED BY
SPIDERWICK
INTERNATIONAL
SPRITE
LEAGUE

March 11th, 1912

A specimen was spotted by a rancher while it was diving at his cattle.

I wondered how it was that he had the Sight (allowing him to spot the creature), and it turns out he was the seventh son of a seventh son.

PLATE XXXI

This paddle on the tip of the tail may act as a rudder while the creature is in flight.

The dragon made a call starting with a hiss and ending with more of a warble.

Was it communicating with the farmer or others in the vicinity?



There were patches of fine down on its back and on the dorsal side of the wings.

J. Spierdick

Draco alatus
LONG-TAILED WYVERN

RENDERED ONE-EIGHTH ACTUAL SIZE



*Series of sketches showing
a gargoyle's hopping
movement*

*I believe that they absorb
their nutrients from
rainwater through
their porous
skin.*



*They become quite active
during storms, especially if
they have been dormant for
an extended period of time.*

*However, if struck by
lightning, they become
instantly petrified and
fall to the ground
where their body
shatters upon
impact.*

Ecclesiababitus despuens
SPITTING GARGOYLE

Not all brownies looked like
Himbletack. This fellow, named Tam
Bortledove, lived in a very old home in
a nearby town.

As with many sightings I've
researched, only the children of the
household could see him.

Tam was a "mender." At night he
would patch holes in clothing and even
shoes. I wonder if the cobblers in the
fairy tale "The Elves and the Shoemaker"
were, in fact, brownies.



RENDERED ONE HALF ACTUAL SIZE

Tam's pincushion
found under kitchen
floorboard

He has stitched leather knee pads
onto his trousers, made from a sock.



Custos domesticus
COMMON HOUSE BROWNIE

RENDERED ACTUAL SIZE

*His cap is made
of mouse leather.*

*This brownie lives within the walls of our
house. His name is Thimbletack.*

*Thimbletack
has beady black
eyes and whiskers
like a rodent.*

*His hands are
very calloused.*

*One of my
dress socks
was used to
make his pants.*

*His pail is a large thimble,
and he cut a piece out of a dish
sponge from the kitchen.*

*His shirt used to belong
to a doll from my
daughter's dollhouse.*

*A badminton shuttlecock,
with a straight pin
in it, serves as his
feather duster.*



Custos domesticus
COMMON HOUSE BROWNIE

RENDERED ACTUAL SIZE

Trolls

FAMILY NOCTURNIDAE

T*rolls* are afflicted with a ravenous and never-ending hunger that leads them to devour whole flocks of livestock. . . . Nocturnal by necessity since sunlight will turn them instantly to stone, trolls are more common far to the north, where it is dark for months at a time. Water trolls live primarily in or near freshwater, along the banks of a bog or deep river.

The hump and the top of the head, the only portions of the troll seen above water level, look like partially submerged rocks.

Their long arms are perfect for reaching over a bridge and grabbing passersby.

Like a sea anemone, her
tentacled "hair" delivered a
numbing sting to anyone
foolish enough to touch it.



This specimen could
float perfectly
vertical in the
water with these
swimmerets that ran
up the ventral side
of her tail.

This mermaid had
true gills, which
opened and closed just
below her rib cage.

Some individuals
release an inky cloud
from a sac located in
their tail. They then
swim off while the
would-be predator is
distracted.

J. G. G. G.

Siren caribbaeanus
CARIBBEAN MERMAID

RENDERED ONE-SIXTH ACTUAL SIZE

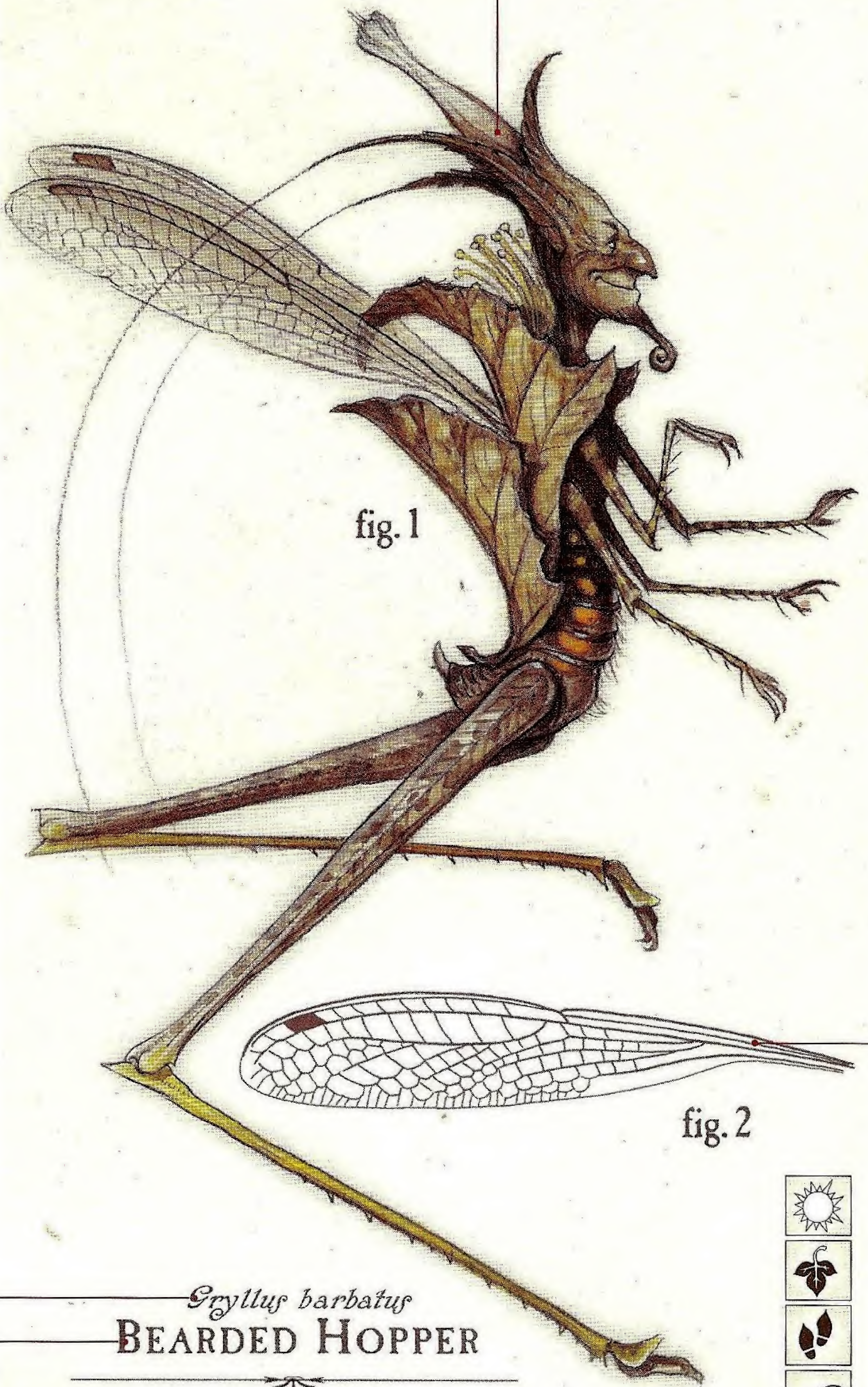


fig. 1

fig. 2

Gryllus barbatus
BEARDED HOPPER

fig. 1 - Lateral view

fig. 2 - Detail of wing showing veination

ACTUAL SIZE: 28 mm



Ce spécimen
a environ
cinq siècles.

Il dégage une
discrète odeur
de feuilles
mouillées.

Les mâles semblent plus bizarres que
les femelles, surtout à la fin de
l'automne.

Voici Lorengorm, un garde elfique. Il
s'est toujours beaucoup méfié de moi.

Son armure semble constituée de
feuilles séchées et de cosses.

Lorengorm
a taillé
son arc dans
un bois que je
n'ai pas reconnu.

TAILLE RÉELLE

Pointe elfique trouvée dans la terre

Une pointe elfique est une pièce
rectangulaire de pierre noire. C'est
l'une des rares traces que laissent
derrière eux les archers elfiques.
Ces pointes sont mortelles : elles
s'insinuent dans la poitrine des
combattants adverses jusqu'à leur
percer le cœur.

A. Spide-Dick

Dryas nemorivagus
ELFE DES BOIS (MÂLE)

TAILLE RÉELLE SEPT FOIS PLUS GRANDE

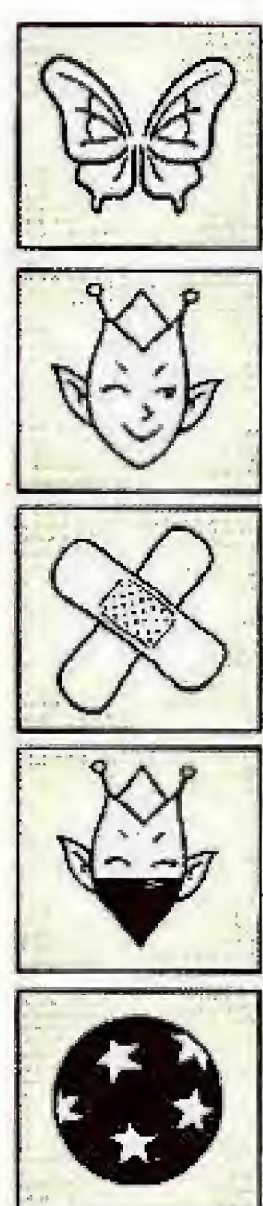
fig. 1 - Lateral view

fig. 2 - Detail of male (top)
and female (bottom)
vestigial tails showing
bioluminescent glands

fig. 1

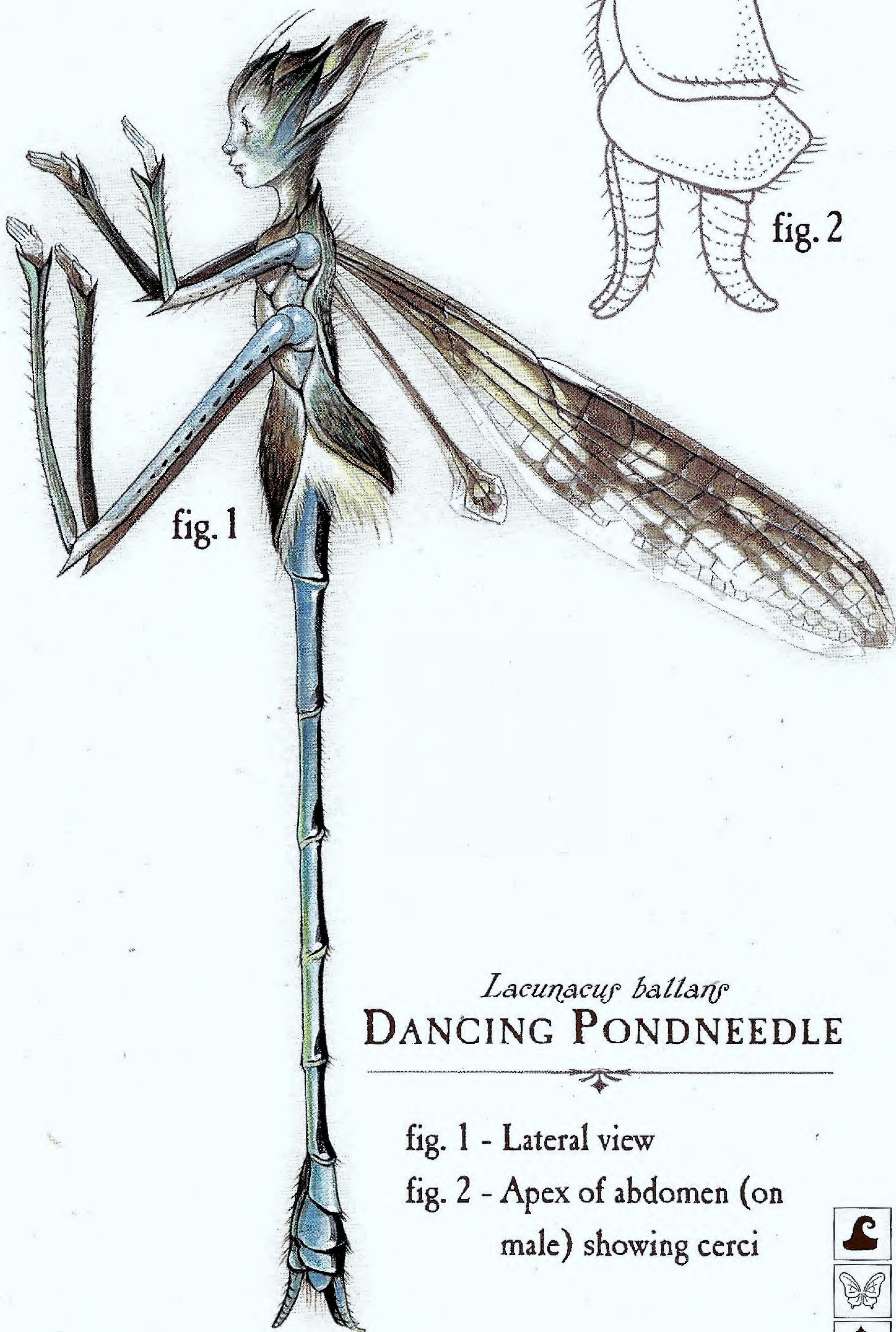


fig. 2



Petasus floridus
FLOWER-HEAD

ACTUAL SIZE: 45 mm



Lacunacus ballan's
DANCING PONDNEEDLE

fig. 1 - Lateral view

fig. 2 - Apex of abdomen (on
 male) showing cerci



His tiny eyes were used to low-light conditions.

This dwarf's name was Jarlitz. He was as curious about me as I was about him.

Many have white beards, although black beards have also been recorded.

Much of their clothing is drab and earthen in color.



His skin was pale . . . almost translucent.

Fosser borealis
NORTHERN QUARRY DWARF

RENDERED ONE-FOURTH ACTUAL SIZE

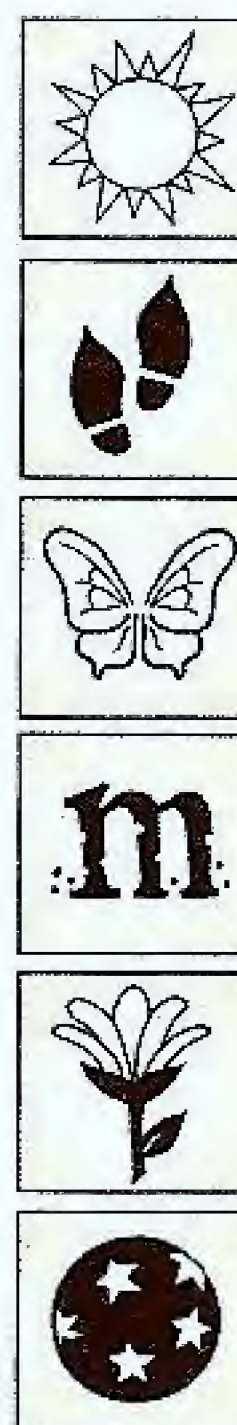


Bacula caerulea
LITTLE BLUEBERRY SPRITE

fig. 1 - Lateral view

fig. 2 - Antenna detail

ACTUAL SIZE: 32 mm



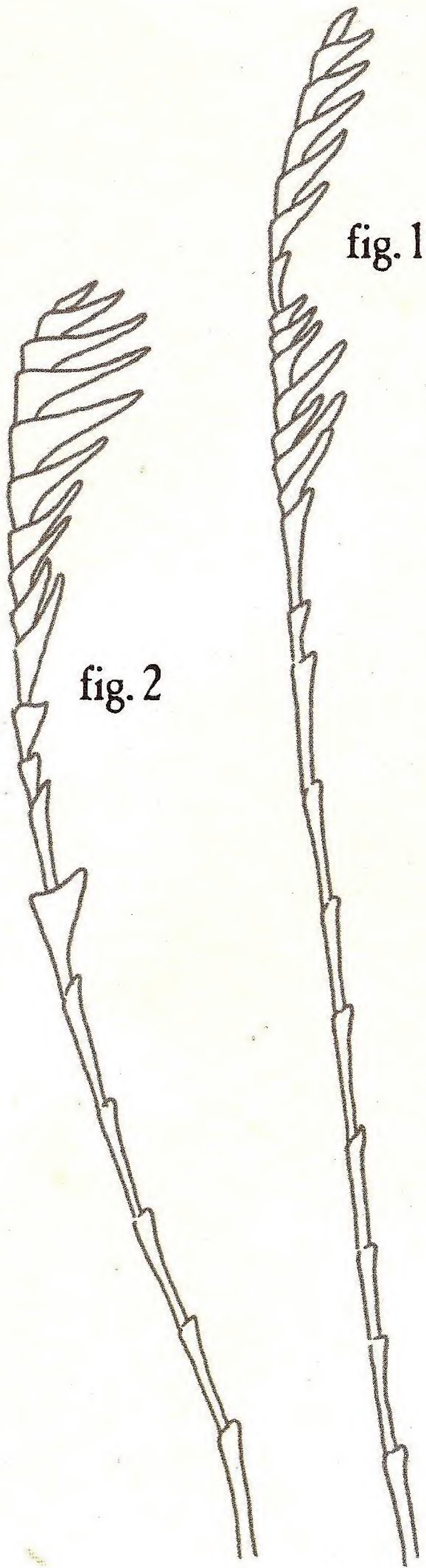


fig. 1

fig. 2

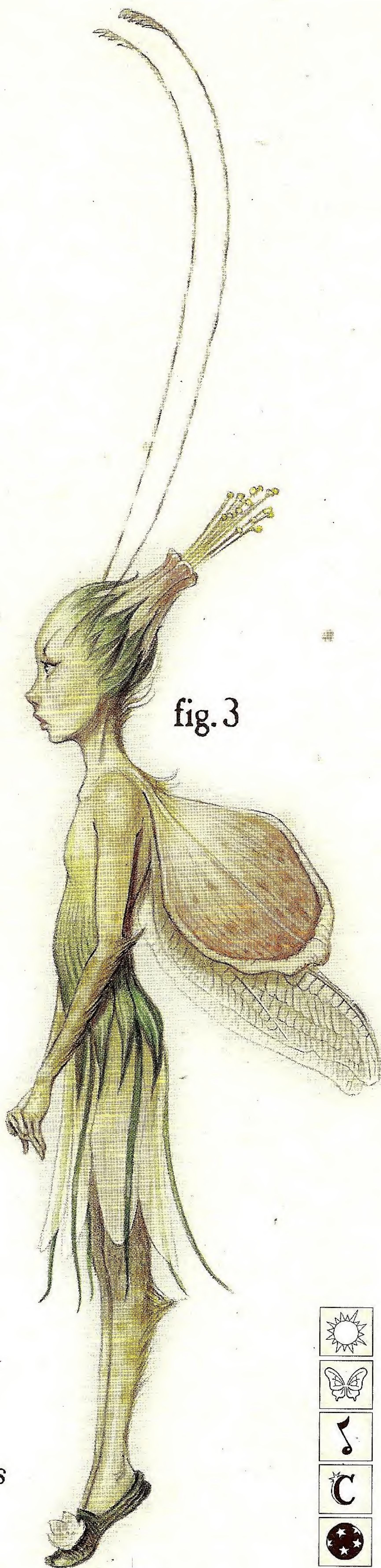


fig. 3

Puella dumetae
THICKET SPRITE

- fig. 1 - Antenna of *Puella agilis*
fig. 2 - Antenna of *Puella communis*
fig. 3 - Lateral view

ACTUAL SIZE: 48 mm

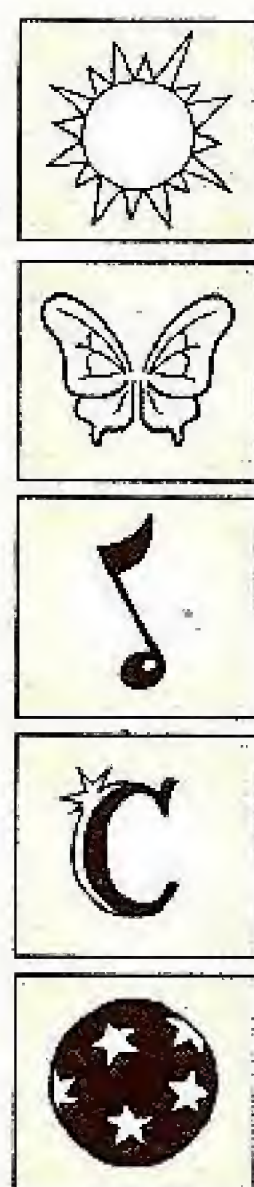




fig. 4

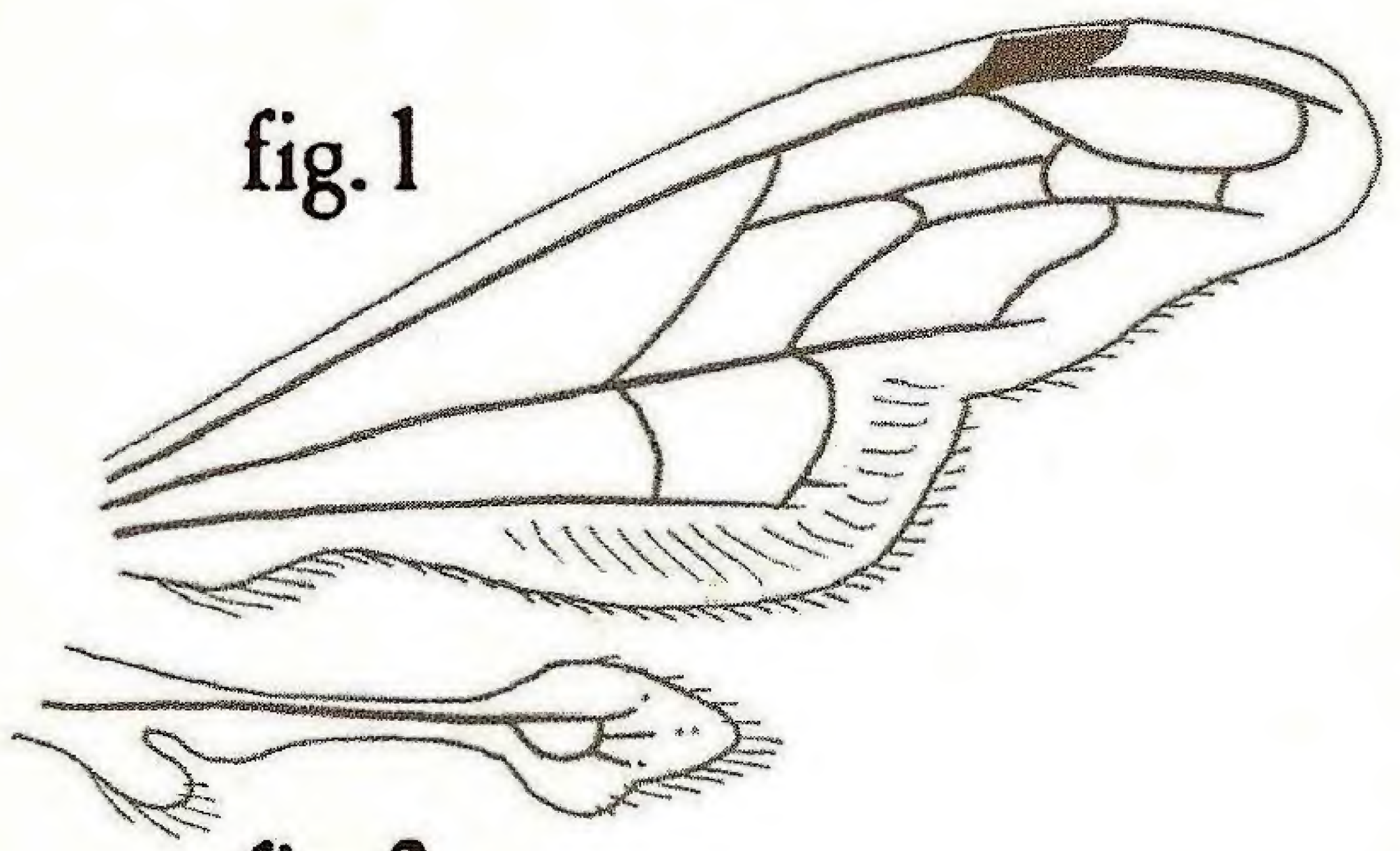


fig. 1



fig. 2



fig. 3

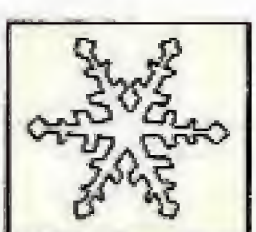
Surculigena surculigena
SPROUT SPRITE


fig. 1 - Primary flight wing

fig. 2 - Haltere

fig. 3 - Proleg and tarsus

fig. 4 - Lateral view

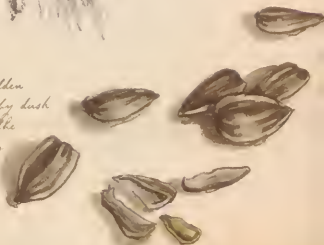




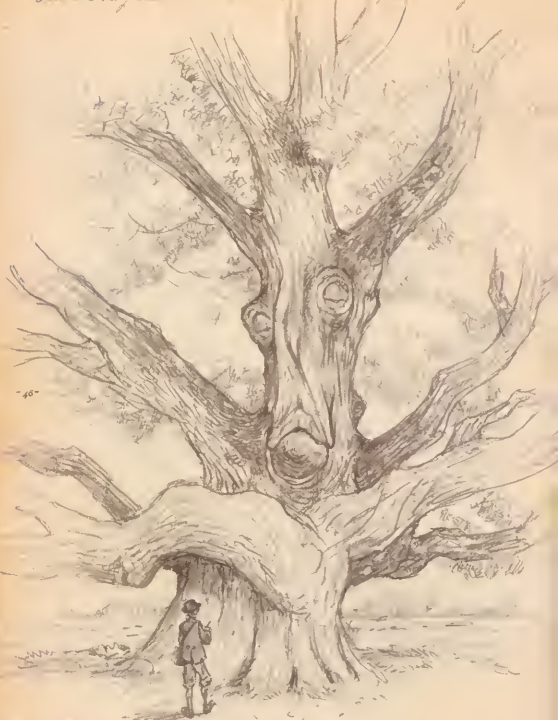
*This is Allister's brother,
Bernie. Although solitary
in nature, leprechauns will
sometimes live in small
groups.*

*Leprechauns will carry
leather purses with
"fool's gold" so that if
they are mugged by
humans, the robber will
steal gold that will turn to
ash at the next dawn.*

*Bernie gave me a handful of golden
sunflower seeds. As I expected, by dusk
the glamour had worn off and the
golden luster was gone, revealing
ordinary seeds. Surprisingly,
however, when I split one
open, I discovered a hernel
of gold inside the shell.*



But - a very ancient oak tree that I discovered deep in a nearby wood.



No other trees grew near it, and it was planted in a clearing full of wildflowers. It would not speak to me, despite my most earnest effort. However, no matter where I paused around its massive diameter, it still gazed down upon me with its gnarled eyes.



This chap's name was Allister Sassafas. He lived in a nearby field where he would make single shoes.

PLATE VIII

Grass tucked in his hat contributes to camouflage while working.

His large ears allow for exceptional hearing.

This shoe is made from dried and treated leaves.

Buckles on his shoes have sharp prongs, used as spurs whilst riding livestock.

Cobblers' tools always handy

A. J. S. 1912

Lutor vetus
OLD-WORLD LEPRECHAUN

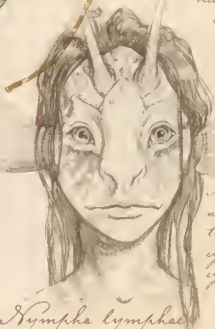
DESIGNED BY D. M. L. 1912



Like some merfolk, nixies have "hair" that is, in fact, external gill filaments that take in oxygen from the water as they swim.

They have no fingernails or hair to speak of, and their skin has a beautiful opalescent sheen to it, much like the soft underbelly of a frog.

I was able to get this one to pose for me by bringing our Victrola record player to the bank and playing music, which she greatly enjoyed.



Nixies have a translucent nictitating membrane that functions as a third eyelid and protects the eye while underwater.

Nympha lymphae
FRESHWATER NIXIE

REPRODUCED BY THE MUSEUM



The track of a lake helpie walking in mud

The stride is approx. 5'5" cm, a bit smaller than a horse's.



You can clearly see the additional hooved toes in its tracks. Like unicorns, helpies have a toe configuration more akin to ancestral horses.



to his sons, a S. Schaal, enlarged the works is now e Erie City n the Nickel ailway, just the city. A supplies all and all the There has ll the product cent enlarge-

MILL.

of the Erie of 11th and prosperous comprise a mill being with heavy ipped with appliances, ne twenty-d excellent

fact that they are steadily increasing their business, and the future looks especially bright for them.

SWIMMING HOLE GRAVEYARD

REMAINS OF CHILDREN FOUND FOUL PLAY SUSPECTED

Dredging a popular swimming hole for traces of two missing children resulted in the discovery of human remains. Although uncertain as to how many bodies were found, police believe there are too many to be attributed to natural causes. As yet there is no word on whether Edith, 10, and Peter, 12, are among the dead.

Many in the community report that the hole is a popular place for swimming in the summers and that they've even seen horses cool off with a plunge into its waters.

Estima

Don't I

W.

The On

M.

-55-

March 1st, 1929

My wife is increasingly troubled by what she calls my "grisly and macabre" interest in the recent spate of watery deaths. She thinks I am becoming obsessed.

March 2nd, 1929

Perhaps my wife is right. The shifting nature of faeries continues to confound me. How am I to present my findings to the scientific community and be taken seriously?

I am no longer sure what is real and what is illusion.

[overleaf]

Items used as teeth which I extracted from the gums



FIG A bird's talon FIG B and E mammalian teeth
FIG C glass shard FIG D sharpened wood FIG F pen nib



underside of
hand showing
opposable
thumb

Goblins have
acute hearing
and a highly
refined
sense of
smell.



As masters
of refuse,
they will
use anything
discarded by
humans.

Goblins urinate
to mark their
property and
territory.

A. J. S. 1900

Diabolus vulgaris
COMMON GROUND GOBLIN

Their large eyes can move independently of one another. The smaller, simple eyes detect body heat.

The toadlike body is covered with fleshy polyps.

This specimen is approx. 147 years old.

Since this is a more remote species, its language was a bit rough and hard to understand.

This one can change its color pattern for camouflage, not unlike a flounder.

They are intelligent enough to make crude weapons like this makeshift trident.

J. J. J.

Diabolus invidiosus
GREATER BULL GOBLIN

ILLUSTRATION FOR THE BULL GOBLIN

Their large eyes can move independently of one another. The smaller, simple eyes detect body heat.

The toadlike body is covered with fleshy polyps.

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J. J. J.

Diabolus invidiosus
GREATER BULL GOBLIN

ILLUSTRATION FOR THE "GREAT GOBLIN"

This one's name
was Piddledrip,
and he liked to
steal crayons
and scribble all
over the walls
at night.

Like goblins, they
have secondary
eyes used for heat
and motion
detection.

Many have
bat-like features
such as large,
fleshy noses and
ears adapted
for listening to
high frequencies.

Also like goblins,
hobs are born
without teeth.
Frequently they
will steal teeth
left by children
for the
tooth
fairy.

Because they are
primarily nocturnal
by nature, they have
incredible hearing
and an acute sense
of smell.

This one was
also fond of
urinating on
the beds!

J. J. J.

Diabolus praestigiator
COMMON HOB

REPRODUCED BY THE ACT OF 1911

Their "hair" is actually external gill filaments used to extract oxygen from the water.

This female was approx. 240 years old.

The filaments only extend from their heads and, like mammalian hair, need to be groomed via combing and brushing . . . an action sometimes witnessed when they perch on reefs and rocks during low tide.



Siren pacificus
PACIFIC SEA-MAID

RENDERED ONE-FIFTH ACTUAL SIZE



IN THE SKY

Wingspan: approx. 4 m

Griffins

FAMILY MIXTIDAE

The regal *griffin* (also spelled *gryphon*) is thought to be the offspring of an eagle (king of the air) and a lion (king of all beasts). Its plumage ranges from cream to deep brown, yet some specimens have feathers with a deep, dark bluish sheen.

While many griffins migrated to Europe from the Middle East in the thirteenth century, most remain desert-dwelling. They roost in high places and are only likely to be spotted when they fly in search of food. Their bones are more commonly discovered, although they are often mistaken for the bones of dinosaurs.

The adult griffin is about the size of a lion but far stronger. Despite their formidable natural advantages, griffins are very rare. Unlike less fantastical hybrids like mules, however, they can reproduce. Their eggs are said to be made of agate.

Griffins are resistant to the poison of dragons and very hostile to horses. For this reason, the offspring of a griffin and a horse—the *hippogriff*—is considered to be a symbol of the enduring power of love.

*Egg redrawn from memory.
I did not dare risk taking
it from the nest.*



RENDERED ONE-HALF ACTUAL SIZE

Flattery got this ogre, Balcorus, to pose for me. He insisted on a formal portrait as opposed to my "animal paintings."

Some ogres dress very lavishly, others prefer simpler attire. This one was wearing a silk banyan from the 1700s.

He was fond of griffin meat and had adorned himself with claws and feathers.



Here he is holding a goblet made from a unicorn's horn. Many species I found had six or seven digits on each hand and foot.

Horrifer perraultianus
PERRAULT'S OGRE

RENDERED ONE-NINTH ACTUAL SIZE

Perching stance

This small, feisty gargoyle was living on an old building in New York which is now a bank.



Small, webbed hands resemble wings but are incapable of flight.



Legs and feet are heavily muscled on this specimen.

It snarled quite a bit and made a growling-croak sound.

Ecclesiasthabitans nanus
DWART GARGOYLE

RENDERED ONE THIRD ACTUAL SIZE.



ANISH MOHAN
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